## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1.      (Currently amended) A computer system for parsing XML, the system comprising:

a scanner that parses an XML stream to locate at least one XML token associated with an XML item;

a reader that selectively pulls the XML item from the XML stream; and

a retriever that retrieves information associated with the pulled XML item.

2.      (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, where the XML item is one of a start token, an end token, markup, content, an entity reference, an external reference, an element, a tag, character data, an attribute, a CDATA section, a comment and a processing instruction.

3.      (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising a checker that determines whether the pulled XML item is well-formed.

4.      (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a validator that determines whether the pulled XML item is valid.

5.      (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, where the scanner:
facilitates navigating a virtual node in a stream of XML nodes; and
resolves an external reference in the XML stream.

6-7.      (Cancelled).

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8.      (Currently amended) The system of claim 1 [[7]], ~~where~~ the reader selectively pulls an XML node from the stream of XML nodes based, at least in part, on data provided to the reader by a parse requestor.

9.      (Previously presented) The system of claim 1, the retriever exposes data model and/or Infoset information associated with the pulled XML item.

10.     (Currently amended) The system of claim 3, ~~where~~ the checker determines whether the pulled XML item is well-formed based, at least in part, on comparing the pulled XML item to one or more syntax documents.

11.     (Currently amended) The system of claim 4, ~~where~~ the validator determines whether the pulled XML item is valid based, at least <u>in</u> [[on]] part, on comparing the XML item to one or more DTD, schema, and external data representation documents.

12.     (Currently amended) The system of claim 1, ~~where~~ at least one of the scanner, the reader and the retriever [[are]] <u>is</u> an object.

13-15.  (Cancelled).

16.     (Currently amended) A <u>computer implemented</u> method for parsing XML, the method comprising:
        instantiating a pull model parser;
        establishing a state associated with the pull model parser;
        accepting a parse request;
        selectively pulling an XML item based, at least in part, on the parse request; and
        updating the state based on the selectively pulled XML item.

17.     (Original) The method of claim 16 further comprising checking the pulled XML item to determine whether it is well-formed.

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18.    (Original) The method of claim 17 where determining whether the pulled XML item is well-formed comprises comparing the pulled XML item to one or more syntax documents.

19.    (Original) The method of claim 16 further comprising checking the pulled XML item to determine whether it is valid.

20.    (Original) The method of claim 19 where determining whether the pulled XML item is valid comprises comparing the pulled XML item to at least one of a DTD, a schema and an external data representation.

21.    (Cancelled).

22.    (Original) The method of claim 16 where instantiating the pull model parser comprises:

         associating a stream with the pull model parser; and

         initializing a scanner adapted to facilitate navigating within the stream.

23.    (Original) The method of claim 16 where establishing the state associated with the pull model parser comprises:

         associating a state machine with the pull model parser; and

         establishing an initial state position within the state machine.

24.    (Previously presented) The method of claim 16 where selectively pulling an XML item further comprises:

         positioning a virtual node over an XML node within a stream of input XML nodes; and

         selectively extracting an XML item from the XML node over which the virtual node is positioned; and

         resolving an external reference in the XML item.

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25.     (Cancelled).


26.     (Currently amended) The method of claim 16 where updating the state based on the selectively pulled XML item comprises repositioning the state position within [[the]] a state machine.


27.     (Original) A computer readable medium storing computer executable instructions for a method for parsing XML, the method comprising:

   operably connecting a pull model parser and a state machine;

   establishing an initial state in the state machine;

   accepting a parse request;

   selectively pulling an XML item identified in the parse request;

   maintaining the state machine in response to one or more events associated with parsing and/or pulling the pulled XLM item;

   checking the pulled XML item to determine whether it is well-formed; and

   checking the pulled XML item to determine whether it is valid.


28-43 (Cancelled).


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